Miner's Story of the Fatal Stone and How
It Caused Two Deaths—Sunk to Rise No
More.

[Copyright, 1940, by American Press Association and the wing the state of the stone are such things as fatal diamends and to possess one means certain and violent death?" asked the old diamond miner. "It is true." be went on, noting my look of increduality. "I saw one of the stones in Australia, and my partner found one of the accursed things in Brazil. They are called blood diamonds, and the name is well applied. No man, and the name is well applied. No man, and the stone of the stones is well applied. No man, and the name is well applied. No man, and the name is well applied. No man, and the stones in Australia, and my partner found one of the accursed things in Brazil. "That halp's people in my life."

To my fulle risal, Line? I do but hing thou halp in the sam of the stones, as I'll git on mine. We'll both have a lasso an be stationed 30 reds appart. At a signal we'll have bestowed event bain on barmed a mental thing. I have bestowed event bain for every sing. And course mer Since the forming of God's plan. I have bestowed event bain for every sing. And course mer Since the forming of God's plan. I have bestowed event bain for every sing. And course mer Since the forming of God's plan. I have bestowed event bain for every sing. I have bestowed event bain for every sing. And course mer Since the forming of God's plan. I have bestowed event bain for every sing. I have bestowed found one of the accursed things in Brazil.

They are called blood diamonds, and the name is well applied. No matter which way you turn one, in some corner or angle

"I nder the circumstances," spoke the

Jack. "Fight or take water."

"Index the circomstances," spoke the sex and under the sun's you turn one, in some corner or angle of it lurks a crimson spet that seems like a drop of blood. Before the Australian stone was lost it had been in the possession of them died a violent death.

"My partner in Braid was a likely young fellow mamed John Robinson. He was born in Michigan and bad taken to wan dering over the world at an early age. It was no more than fair, and knowing no man could like a be such a brief time Jack finally agreed.

Stone procured a lariat, and from that the one was the was profectly cool and determined to meet the moment he touched that fatal dismond.

"In never knew exactly how it came into his possession. There was some mystery about that, and he did not seem to his possession. There was some mystery about that, and he did not seem to his possession. There was some mystery about that, and he did not seem to his possession. There was some mystery about that, and he did not explain. I am certain he did not stell it from the mine, for it was partfally polished, bringing on strongly the bloody high in the stone. It seemed to me that the one who set out to polish it his did not seed the stone and crombed close beside me, his voice trenthing as he whitpered:

"I noticed John's excitement some time before he showed me the stone, and I wondered what could all him. I was smoking in front of our cabin door when he came and crombed close beside me, his voice trenthing as he whitpered:

"I not mean you are going to start," I corrected. "Have you given up making"

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"You mean you are going to start," I corrected. "Have you given up making in front of our cabin door when he came and crombed close beside me, his voice trenthing as he whitpered:

"I medically him to the stone he came he for the showed me the stone, and I won her was partfally be a should be the stone when he came he for the showed me that the one who set out to polis

"Tin going back home tomorrow, Hank!"
"You mean you are going to start, I gorrected. "Have you given up making

"'Here, he softly cried, excitedly fum-bling in his clothes and producing some thing, take a look at this!"

"Then be held the diamond up before my eyes, causing me to drop my pipe and utter a cry of amazement. The stone was as large as an egg, and once glance showed me it was of the very highest grade.



THE LAST OF THE PUGITIVE. "'Where in the name of heaven did you

"'I found it,' was his evasive reply. 'What's it worth, Hank?'

"What's it worth, Hank?"
"'It's worth a king's ransom,' I declared as I reached out to take it from his fingers. Then I saw the drop of blood lurking in an angle of the fatal stone, and I fell back, feeling my face grow pale. 'My soul,' I gasped; 'it's the blood dinmond!
"What's that's he questioned, but when I had told him he latighed at me, saying he was not expectations. All the same I re-

evil face of Matanza, a native laborer.

hunt down runaway thieves.
"It was near sundown when we came up with him. He had fallen and sprained his with him. He had fallen and sprained his ankle, so he could not travel very fast, and picture of despair. William G. Patter. there was no chance of his escaping. When he saw he was fairly cornered, he turned to shake his clinched hands at us, and then he began hobbling down a cut that led to a dark sink hole that was like a basin filled

dark sink hole that was like a bosh filled with black water, on the surface of which nothing floated.

"Thinking he might try to give us the slip by elimbing up some rocks to the right. I hastily scrambled over the bowlders to intercept him. When I reached the sum mit. I could look down upon him as he mit, I could look down upon him as he stood at the verge of the sink hole, trapped. He had the fatal diamond in his hand, and was wildly cursing the stone in his own

"'You have brought me death, as I gave death to the American;' he cried. 'You shall bring death to no more! Let he who can draw you from beneath the black

"Then one of the dogs broke from leash and came baying at the fugitive. Matanza turned to face the creature, and with one the dead, and to have a great number was a leap the hound fastened its teeth in the native's throat. Over and over whiried man and brute as they shot downward. I saw an festant glean of the blood diamond just as they struck, and then the black water closed sluggishly over them. We waited 36 minutes that neither dog nor man rose to minutes that neither dog nor man rose to minutes, but neither dog nor man rose to the surface. The fatal diamond was lost

I was with the Northern Pacific railroad survey when it made its way up the Yel-lowstone valley. Dave Stone, a young en gineer of our party, had made a bitter en-emy of Roper Jack, one of the scouts and Indian fighters, and as Jack had an ugly record it was expected that trouble would Stone was a fearless fellow, and one of the best shots I ever saw, therefore be did not seem to care in the least for the threats and black looks of the scout. More than once I warned him to look out for the

Roper, but he only laughed at me, saying he was able to take care of himself.

As I anticipated, the affair finally cul-minated. Hot words passed between the two, and then Jack declared the engineer

to prove it I'll Sont you and put a bullet

"I don't arrow miney about duels, but I do know Fin the one-challenged, an I recken that gives methe righted choosin wanpons. We won't flight with puns, but we'll use

he made the cast. Through the air shot the "You mean you are going to start," I be made the cast. Through the air shot the presented. Have you given up making an fortune?"
"Not a bit of it, man! I have my for make was jerked squirming through the air. In a remarkably brief space of time. "What?"
"Here,' he softly cried, excitedly fumming the looke and producing someting, 'take a look at this!"
"Then be held the diamond up before the lead to the ratifer, and the next instant the saik was jerked squirming through the air. In a remarkably brief space of time, the scription is the scription of the lead to the ratifer, and the next instant the saik was jerked squirming through the air. In a remarkably brief space of time, the scription is the scription of the lead to the ratifer, and the next instant the saik was jerked squirming through the air. In a remarkably brief space of time, the scription is the scription of the lead of the ratifer, and the next instant the saik was jerked squirming through the air. In a remarkably brief space of time.

Stone's boot heel, and the engineer was calling to the lead of the ratifer, and the next instant the saik was jerked squirming through the air. In a remarkably brief space of time.

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amazement and admiration growing on his weatherbeaten face. At length he came slowly forward. "I sw'ar, that was a slick throw!" he said. "I recken you saved my life, pard, an right hyar I ask your pardon for callin ye a cow ard. You hain't none whatever. A man as can handle a rope like that can't be a coward! If you insist on fightin, we'll have

it out, jest as we greed, but I low I hain't anxious to fight a man as has saved me from a rattler's jaws."

This was a fair apology, and Stone ac pted it. "We'll call it square, then," declared the young engineer.
"Let's shake," Invited the scout, extend

They shook.

He Lost Something.

Last year I attended a horse race in the state of Maine. As a result of the free for all, Lightfoot was an easy winner, Penobseot coming in second, with Git Thar pressing him hard. Away back on the track beyond the quarter post the skinniest old nagle ver set eyes on was making a desperate thouse to ask around to the judges stand stagger to get around to the Judges' stand before dark. The old horse was called Dis-aster, and her appearance on the track had occasioned any amount of ridicule.

I noticed a tall, lanky country lad who came down past where I stood, looking all around on the ground, a sad and disgusted expression on his homely face. "Looking for anything!" I asked.

"Yep," he nodded.
"Lost something? He stopped, put his hands deep into the pockets of his patched pantaloons, lopped his long neck to the right and cocked his left shoulder about three inches higher than

"What's that?' he questioned, but when I had told him he latighed at me, saying he was not superstitious. All the same, I refused to touch the thing and urged him to throw it away. He actually thought me crasy.

"While we were examining the stone I glanced up and discovered a pair of dark, glittering eyes fastened upon us. The eyes quickly disappeared around the corner of the country of the co disappeared around the corner of but not until I had recognized the of Matanza, a native laborer. to taown an git my rig. I kem diaown with the hull pile of that money right slap in my britches pocket—walked all the way an "That night I rested poorly, but in some stopped seven times to get a nip of cider manner Robinson managed to slip out of the cabin without arousing me. When morning came, I discovered he was gone. I know not what fate possessed him to sneak away in such a manner, but I think it was been the way and the well influence of the diverged. the evil influence of the diamend, once jest that kind of a loss fooled 'em all an got away with the tin, 1 'lowed Disas less than half a mile away. He was stone te'd do that same thing, an I saw my dead, his skull having been crushed like an chaince tomake a heap of money, so''—

dead, his skull having been crushed like an eggshell by means of a heavy stone. The accursed diamond was gone, for its bloody work was done.

"In a moment I suspected Matenza, and inquiry revealed the fact that he had not been seen that day. A search falled to find a trace of him, and then I told what I thought had happened. In less than an other trail, which was to be followed by bloodhounds, the animals being kept to hunt down rimaway thieves.

"You don't mean to say you placed your money on that horse!"

"Ev'ry honswoggled cent, by gum! Lost anything! Vear, an Jed Bridge er'll have a new rig sure. He's sartin to cut me acut with "Mandy Brooks! Am tout me acut with "Mandy Brooks! Am to the trail, which was to be followed by bloodhounds, the animals being kept to hunt down rimaway thieves.

Then he slouched away, his hands still deep in the pockets of his shabby panta-loons, and his eyes on the ground, the very

The Life Plant.

There is a life tree, but it is more properly called the life plant. It is a creeping moss found in Jamaica, Barbados and other islands of the West Indies. Its powers of vitality are beyond those of any of vitality are beyond those of any other plant. It appears to be absolutely inde-structible by any means except immersion in boiling water or application of a redhot from. It may be cut up and divided in any manner, and the smallest shred will throw out roots, grow and form buds. The leaves of this extraordinary plant have been sus-pended in the air in a dry room, they have been placed in a close, airtight, dark box, without moisture of any sort, and still lived and come - blookly. Fauls. lived and grew.-Brooklyn Eagle.

Torches at Funerals. were an article of profit to the church. Church wardens' accounts furnish numer-ous instances of the charge to the friends of the deceased according to the consumption of wax .- Westminster Gazette.

An Extraordinary Dereliet. The most extraordinary derelict ship of which there is record is the bark Marie Ce leste, which was found in the middle of the Atlantic deserted, with every sail set, din ner half cooked in the galley and not a sou on board, though she had every appearance of having been occupied immediately be fore. The weather was fair and there was a gentle breeze. She was towed into port but no explanation of the mystery sur-rounding the vessel has ever offered itself— London Millios

-London Million. A Considerate Duclist. A duel with pistols was to take place be tween a couple of Frenchmen. One of them was 15 minutes behind time. Bowing politely, he said: GEMS IN VERSE.

Death's Protest. Why dost thou shrink from my approach

When all the battles are lost and are won, The last word spoken, the argument done, Which, which is the best land under the sun!

The question is pondered by you and me As our barks are salling life's mystic sea. And, on second thinking, we all agree!

We are not divided, saving in name; in essence each choice is really the same— It springs from a common, ineffable flame. Whatever our race, wherever we ream, The spot that is stearest to each is home, The toast drank deepest is "Home, sweet home — Brandon Banner.

Rest. My feet are wearied, and my hands are tired My soul oppressed, And with desire have I long desired Rest—only rest.

Tis hard to toll when toll is almost vain In barren ways;
"Tis hard to sow and never garner grain
In harvest days. The burden of my days is hard to bear,

But God knows best: And I have prayed, but vain has been my Prayer. For rest-sweet rest. Tis hard to plant in spring and never reap

The autumn yield:
This hard to till, and when 'tis tilled to weep
O'er fruitless field. And so I cry, a weak and human cry, And so I sigh, a weak and human sigh,

My way has wound across the desert years, And cares infest
My path, and through the flowing of hot tears
I pine for rest.

Twas always so. When still a child, I laid On mother's breast My wearied little head. E'en then I prayed, As now, for rest

And I am restless still. Twill soon be over, For down the west Life's sun is setting, and I see the shore Where I shall rest. —Father Ryan. The Baby. The little, tottering baby feet,

With faltering steps and slow, With pattering echoes soft and sweet, Into my heart they go: They also go in grimy plays. In muddy pools and dusty ways: Then through the house in trackful ma They wander to and fro. The baby hands that clasp my neck

With stuches dear to me.

Are the same lands that smash and wrech
The inkstand, foul to see;
They pound the mirror with a cane;
They rend the manuscript in twain;
Widespread destruction they ordain

The dreamy, marmuring voice
That cooes its little tune.
That makes the listening heart rejoice,
Like birds in leary June.
Can wake in midnight dark and still,
And all the air with howing till,
That splits the ear with echoes shrill,
Like cornets out of tune.

—R. J. Burdette.

To see a strong man helping the weak And making their cause his own, Then reaping a harvest of grateful love In the fields where his strength was sown-"Tis a beautiful thing to see!

To say a word of encouraging cheer
To a fainting fellow soul
That lacks but a hearty "Friend, godspeed!" To bring it home to its goal—
"Tis a beautiful thing to say;

To put one's breast as a bulwark strong In front of some friendless wight To shield his heart from an ugly wrong And conquer for him his right—

'Tis a beautiful thing to do!

—Atlanta Constitution. Today.

Say not tomorrow! Today is your own
To parcel as you will.
For who can tell that when the day has flown
He shall be living still? Oh, blest is he whose daily balance sheet Brings perfect work to view, using day leaves no task incomplete For other hands to do.

Tomorrow's but a jack-o'-lantern sprite That flees the laggard's clasp; Today's the power whose hand of gracious might Holds forture in its grasp.

Absence.

The shortest absence brings to every thought Of those we love a solemn tenderness. It is akin to death. Now we confess. Seeing the loneliness their loss has brought, That they were dearer far than we had taught Ourselves to think. We see that nothing less Than hope of their return could cheer or bless Our weary days. We wonder how, for aught Or all of fault in them, we could heed Or anger with their loving presence near. Or wound them by the smallest word or deed Dear absent love of mine! It did not need Thy absence to tell me thou wert dear, And yet the absence maketh it more clear.

— Helen Hunt Jackson.

Books should to one of these four ends conduce: For wisdom, plety, delight or use. —Sir J. Denham.

I lately made the discovery that by tearing a bit off one corner of my notebook I could put my thumb nail on the corner of the first page on which I wanted to write and open to it at once without fingering to and open to it at once without fingering to separate that page and the cover. It fol-lowed as a corollary that when the first page was written full the exposed corner of that page could be torn off in the same manner and the second page opened to with equal readiness and so on. I think this idea may be found useful where one turns several times to one page before writ-ing on the next, as on notebooks, account books, etc. A gentleman to whom Levbooks, etc. A gentleman to whom I ex-plained the idea suggested that books might be made with perforations across one corner, so that the tear might be easier and neater.-Cor. Writer.

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